Headquarter to act as "incognitio decoy customer" for test purchase of drugs to keep surveillance at the activities of suspected persons.

(3) To augment and strengthen infrastructure facilities in the State Labs. and to expedite analysis of statutory samples.

(4) To launch and purposefully follow up prosecution against the persons under Drugs and Cosmetics Act and other allied Acts for tackling the problem of look-alike drugs which differ slightly in their design, packing, colour combination etc.

(5) To constitute/reactivate State Drugs Advisory Committee by involving Pharma and Consumers Associations.

(6) To Pharmacy Trade associations to monitor the activities of suspected dealers through their marketing personnel by purchasing samples of drugs for validation of quality of drugs moving in the inter-State commerce. Further, such vital information collected by them should be shared forthwith with the State Licensing Authorities for their further action.

(7) Trade Association to educate their members on code of ethics, Good Pharmacists Practices and to cooperate in checking the menace of clandestine sale of spurious and fake medicines.

Pollution in River Yamuna

*89. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court and now the

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) have rapped the Government for failing to control water pollution in the Yamuna river;

(b) whether, inspite of sanction of finance and approval of additional sewage treatment plants, no action has been taken, as a result of which, the river water now poses a hazard to the health of our citizens; and

(c) if so, what action does the Government plan to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court has expressed its displeasure over the non-compliance of its repeated orders by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi with regard to the control of pollution of Yamuna river. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in their report for the year ending March 1999 have come down heavily on the Govt. of National Capital territory of Delhi for improper handling of management of sewage treatment in Delhi.

(b) According to a study conducted by the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited in April 1999, the quantity of sewage generated in Delhi was estimated at 2720 million liters per day. With the commissioning of 9 out of 16 sewage treatment plants under construction, about 1400 million litres per day of sewage is treated and the remaining 1320 million litres per day is discharged untreated into Yamuna river. Due to delay in completion of the 15 common effluent treatment plants in 21 industrial estates of Delhi, industrial effluents are discharged untreated into the river. As a result, the Yamuna river has been rendered unfit for bathing.

(c) A scheme of pollution abatement of Yamuna which is known as the Yamuna Action Plan was approved by the Government in April 1993. The present approved cost of the Action Plan is Rs.509.45 crore. Under this Plan, works have been taken up in 21 towns out of which 8 towns are in Uttar Pradesh and 12 towns in Haryana, besides Delhi. The works include construction of sewage treatment plants, intercepting sewers, crematoria, low cost toilets,

bathing ghats, plantation and public participation. So far, an expenditure of Rs. 431.87 crore has been incurred on the action plan. In addition to two sewage treatment plants constructed under the Yamuna Action Plan in Delhi, the Government of National Capial Territory of Delhi has taken up a plan to construct another 14 sewage treatment plants out of their own plan budget to increase the sewage treatment capacity from the present 1200 million litres per day to 2300 million litres per day. Out of these, 7 have already been completed and 6 are in advanced stages of completion and will be completed by March, 2001. Tenders for the remaining one sewage treatment plant have been invited. The shortfall in the present generation of sewage and the proposed capacity of sewage treatment in Delhi is mainly due to the present policy of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi not to provide sewerage system in the unauthorized colonies and slums. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have also decided to undertake complete rehabilitation of the sewerage system so that all the surface drains presently discharging waste water into the river are intercepted and diverted for treatment to sewage treatment plants. A minimum flow of 10 cubic metres per second of fresh water is desired in the river against which all the riparian States except Delhi have started releasing their share. As a measure to tackle industrial pollution, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has decided to construct 15 common effluent treatment plants in 21 industrial estates of Delhi which are under implementation. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has also issued closure orders to 3198 identified water polluting units.

Delegation of Power for Drug Import Licences

*91. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that licencing authority under Rule 21 of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules have delegated power of signing import licences in Form 10 for import of drugs and pharmaceuticals and diagnostic kits to any other person under his control;